

## **COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/PUBLIC SAFETY**

**August 23, 2005**

Chairman Sysyn called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Sysyn, Guinta, Smith, Forest, O'Neil

Messrs.: K. Clougherty, T. Lolicata, Lt. Valenti, T. Clark

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 3 of the agenda:

Communication from Alderman Garrity requesting the Committee's consideration of the installation of a flashing signals at the intersection of South Beech and Gold Streets due to recent numerous accidents.

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Smith it was voted to approve and refer this item to the Committee on Community Improvement for funding purposes.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 4 of the agenda:

Communication from Alderman Guinta submitting a proposal for the leasing of city parking spaces at the Center of NH Parking Garage during off peak hours to Mr. Robert O'Sullivan, owner of property in the riverfront development area, to aid with parking of restaurant patrons.

Alderman Guinta stated this is a proposal that I put forward to try to work with the Boneyard Restaurant in response to some articles that were written in the paper relative to parking agreement issues or concerns that might hold up that portion of the retail development at the riverfront development. I had a chance to speak with Mr. O'Sullivan regarding the proposal. What he has indicated to me is that he sees merit in the proposal and would like to see some indication from the Committee if there would be support for it at which point he said he could review it with his finance team to identify if it is something he can move forward with. When I spoke with him earlier this week he said in reviewing the proposal he likes the idea. The concern that I have is what was reported in the paper regarding this development is that it appeared, according to that article that it wouldn't come to

fruition if parking was not included. He has tried to resolve something with the Langers, which has not worked. The only other alternative at this point that I can tell unless other people have other ideas is to look at a lease at the Center of NH garage, which has the spaces available for lease. I have talked to Finance and the Solicitor's Office. I don't think from their perspective there is anything that would preclude us from doing it from a legal standpoint so I suspect a policy decision would have to be made by the Board. I would be curious to know if the Board sees any benefit in moving forward with this kind of off-peak hour proposal, which I think could also benefit some of the other businesses downtown that need off-peak rates, whether it is for valet service or for customers of restaurants and other local bars that require additional parking.

Chairman Sysyn stated you have others that lease spaces in the Victory garage and they pay the full rate I believe.

Alderman O'Neil stated one of the things I had asked for and I have yet to receive is a summary of the all of the leases we have throughout the City whether it is in garages or in public lots. I know there are some leases through a card program in the Millyard and on the street. Now I have yet to see that and see what the length is. I have asked for it. I do have a concern that if we do this particular program as proposed what the snowball effect could be with other businesses in the City because as you just pointed out, Madame Chair, we have businesses including restaurants that are paying the full scale amount. I don't know if it is 24/7 but it is 24/5 anyway or Monday through Friday. I am very concerned about that. I don't know what the impact would be on that. Finally, I don't know where the parking study stands. I know the consultant has been in town a number of times. I know they have looked at everything from the Millyard, including south of Granite Street and recognize that there is an issue there that needs to be addressed. With all due respect to my colleague, I am not sure that this is the answer to that problem. I have spoken probably in the last week four or five times with Mr. O'Sullivan about this. Addressing parking is very important to him in his business. I believe it is a restriction on his financing but with all due respect to my colleague I don't believe this is the answer to that problem.

Alderman Guinta replied Alderman O'Neil you said that you made a request. Who did you make that request to?

Alderman O'Neil responded to the Economic Development Director, Paul Borek.

Alderman Guinta asked can you tell me again what the request was.

Alderman O'Neil replied it was for all of the leases we have entered into in the City whether it is leases in the garages or the surface parking lots and I do know

that we have some on-street leasing program in the Millyard program. I was really looking for a summary of what we have exactly going on today.

Alderman Guinta responded which would sort of answer the second concern you raised regarding other restaurants that are paying full price. Are we aware of any restaurants that are currently paying because I am not aware...I have made that inquiry but I have not found the answer. The reason that I think...and I have talked to the parking study consultants on a limited basis and I know that they have been asked by Paul Borek...when I spoke with Paul Borek earlier last week he had indicated to me that it was something that he wanted the parking consultants to take a look at. I have reiterated the same request to the parking consultants with a both short and long term implication relative not just to the garage but to how we deal with parking overall in the City. I think that there is an opportunity not to look at this as something that we would only do for the Boneyard Restaurant but I would like to look at this in a way to change or I guess properly reflect based on leasing offerings what our new downtown needs. I think that there is a need for off-peak rates. I am waiting for the parking consultant to respond to that question, but that is a question that they are looking at. He did indicate to me that there are other cities that they have worked with that do have peak hours and off-peak hours and that it does work in other cities. One of the things that I have looked at and whether it is the parking consultants or maybe MDC to do a longer term study is to look at the garage usage in the evening and determine if there is an off-peak rate that we can offer and it really can be to anybody but primarily I think it is the entertainment businesses of downtown that don't require parking during the day but require parking in the evening unless of course they are serving lunch and most of them seem to, at least the ones I spoke with, said that the on street parking is sufficient. With this situation I am hoping and if you look at...I think Paul Borek mentioned to me...what is the name of the bar that is going in where Cahoots used to be...Whisky Blue. He indicated to me that they have an interest in the same thing – valet service. I suspect that the new chophouse that is going to go on Hanover Street, while they do have parking they need parking as I understand it for employees and that is primarily in the evening. What I am hoping is that we can try to achieve two goals. Number one, allow the Boneyard Restaurant portion of the riverfront project to move forward, which let's not forget that that represents \$50,000 in property tax revenue for next year and \$25,000 for FY06. If we entered into an agreement just at an off-peak rate of \$25/space you are looking at an additional \$18,000 in revenue for the City. When I spoke with the Assistant Manager over at the Center of NH he said that there are spaces every night of the week available at night, including event nights. Of the 1,000 spaces the City has 400 and roughly 200 are leased out so we have 200 to play with. The Assistant Parking Manager said there is never a night when you don't have those empty spaces. I talked to Tim Bechert who is also...as long as we don't utilize the spaces that are used for suite holders he is okay with it. The

only person I am really waiting on is Paul Borek because he had some issues that he wanted the parking consultants to look at and I think that makes sense. I think we should have them look at it. My understanding was that they were going to be able to give us some sort of indication by the end of this week or the beginning of next week so I wouldn't want to receive and file this because I think it is a way that we can help the riverfront development. It is also possibly a new opportunity for a source of revenue in the City and meeting some evening downtown parking needs. That really is how I was hoping we could look at the issue.

Alderman Smith stated parking has been a problem ever since I have been on this Board whether it is downtown or in residential areas. My summary of the whole thing is I think we should get the Economic Development Director to get the summary of leases and give them to the parking consultants and refer it to the parking study. From what I understand the parking study is supposed to be done in October. Is that correct?

Alderman Guinta responded I think so.

Alderman Smith stated I would like to refer this to the parking study.

Alderman Forest stated I sort of agree with my colleague from Ward 3 but we have had several businesses over the past four years anyway that I have been on this Committee approach us about reduced rates downtown and reduced rates for their employees and we have pretty much turned them all down. I sort of agree with Alderman Smith saying that Mr. O'Sullivan has a problem but maybe I can second his motion and refer it to the parking study committee and at least get it going that way and let them give us an answer because in the past we have always turned these people down and I don't think we should be doing it with Mr. O'Sullivan right now. I think we should just refer it to the parking study.

Chairman Sysyn stated you have like four or five restaurants in one block between Merrimack and Manchester Streets. They are all surviving. They use the street parking at night. They don't use...they don't have leases in garages and they are surviving. There are five restaurants at least.

Alderman Forest stated well maybe we should at least refer it to the parking study.

Alderman Guinta responded the only thing I can say to that is they are already looking at that. Paul Borek has asked them to do it and I have asked them to do it and the consultants have responded to both Paul and myself that they are currently looking at it and they will have a recommendation. I am hoping by the end of this week but it could be as late as next week according to the consultants. So it is already in their court. The other point that I would make is I don't want to be too

hasty, however, if that project in the riverfront development is going to get off of its feet their construction...I mean we have to make some decisions so that he can get into this years construction cycle. That is also I think an issue that we should consider as we move forward with it.

Chairman Sysyn asked, Kevin, isn't that piece part of Catapano's agreement with us where that restaurant is going.

Kevin Clougherty, Finance Director, responded right. It will be developed pursuant to the agreement with the parcel that is under Mr. Catapano's control, who is dealing with Mr. O'Sullivan.

Chairman Sysyn asked so he would be responsible for that property tax.

Alderman Guinta stated well we do have a letter of credit, I believe, for like \$120,000 or \$180,000.

Mr. Clougherty responded it is \$180,000.

Alderman Guinta stated I think Frank Catapano would be required to pay that. That would begin in FY06 correct?

Mr. Clougherty replied correct. If for some reason there is not a development down there on time there are make-up provisions with all of those parties so that they would have to pay the taxes. Even if there is not a development and there is no entity to tax, they under the separate agreements are required to pay the tax.

Alderman Guinta asked which would be \$25,000 this year, \$50,000 for FY07...

Mr. Clougherty interjected and if they didn't we would tap the letter of credit for that amount.

Alderman Guinta stated I don't know that...let's be clear here. You are not recommending that that is the appropriate. It is a legal course of action that we could take but I don't know that that is the course of action that we would like to be involved in.

Mr. Clougherty responded I didn't suggest that. When we entered into the development agreement we did put in safeguards to protect the City so that there would be revenue generated to cover the taxes and that is what those documents do. Obviously the best thing to do is to have the taxes paid and to have a development down there.

Alderman Guinta replied and having the rooms and meals money. That is also an issue. That would be rooms and meals money if the development were to move forward, which is sent up to the state and in turn sent back to us. So that is another portion. I want to look at this...I really don't think that from a success standpoint of the riverfront development we want to get into a point where the City is not being able to work with development teams to get something accomplished.

Mr. Clougherty responded I don't disagree with you. Don't get too confused on the rooms and meals because remember that the rooms and meals tax distribution that we get back is based on population, not on how much volume we do in terms of business. We probably get a disproportionate amount in that respect. Getting back to your point, Alderman and the point that Chairman Sysyn made we do have the consultants in and they are doing a study. The idea to do some valet parking or something like that is not uncommon in other cities. It has been on their radar from the start. They are looking at it and their expectation is to have a report sometime in October.

Alderman Smith stated I would like to ask...not to put him on the spot but I would like to ask the Traffic Director has anybody approached you for this summary of leases. Has Paul Borek approached you or anybody on the parking study committee approached you?

Thomas Lolicata, Traffic Director, stated no they haven't but Mr. Lutz is going to be coming to our department and that is one of the things he is going to be looking for. That and other information. We have all of the leases up there. Denise has got all of the information pertaining to that and it is readily available. I am waiting for Mr. Lutz to come up and if there is any other questions he needs answer we will take care of that also.

Alderman Smith moved to refer this item to the parking study committee.  
Alderman Forest duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Guinta stated the only question I would have is what is the point of doing that if they are already researching it and they are going to have an answer for us either by the end of this week or next week.

Chairman Sysyn stated well you can't just okay it.

Alderman Guinta replied I am not saying we should just okay it. I am asking what is the point of referring it to them if they are already reviewing it.

Chairman Sysyn asked well what do you want to do, table it.

Alderman Forest stated we can wait for their answer.

Alderman Guinta asked can we table it instead and wait for their response and then take this up...when is the next Traffic meeting.

Chairman Sysyn replied September.

Alderman Guinta asked in the beginning of the month or the end of the month.

Chairman Sysyn answered it is usually the second Tuesday.

Alderman Guinta asked then can we table it and take it up then because I have an indication from the consultants that they will have a response by then.

Alderman Smith stated according to Kevin Clougherty and according to my information it is October when the parking study is supposed to be in.

Alderman Guinta replied but I asked them specifically about this issue as did Paul Borek and they said that on this issue they would have an answer in the next...

Chairman Sysyn interjected but we won't be able to do anything until the whole study is in I wouldn't think.

Alderman O'Neil stated Alderman Guinta is led to believe that they may have an answer by the end of the week or the beginning of next week and Mr. Lolicata indicates that they haven't even been up to get the leases, which is the question I asked. Something isn't jiving here and I don't know what. I certainly for one am not going to try a new lease program until I know what is going on with our existing lease program.

Alderman Guinta responded I think that makes sense.

Alderman O'Neil stated I have asked for that information and I have yet to get it. I don't know why it has taken so long to get it.

Alderman Guinta asked when did you ask for it.

Alderman O'Neil answered over a week ago I think.

Chairman Sysyn stated if you table this you would have to wait until October until they came in with their study anyway.

Alderman Guinta replied maybe I am not being clear. When Paul Borek...I spoke with Paul Borek in the middle of last week. He said that he spoke on several occasions in the last week and the week before with the parking consultant and asked them to review this particular issue and asked them if they could have a report on this issue, both short and longer term, prior to the completion of the entire study and the answer was yes. I also verified that with the consultant. I am happy to refer this to the consultants but they are already working on it so what I would like to do is if we could send them a letter but also table this issue in case we are able to deal with it in the September meeting. I also think that we should follow-up with Paul because if Alderman O'Neil is asking Paul Borek to obtain information, particularly with this issue, it should be expedited. It is a critical piece of information. We can also reiterate the request to Paul to get this information tomorrow and get it to the parking consultants because quite honestly they probably can't give us an idea until they have that information.

Alderman O'Neil responded again with all due respect to my colleague as this is proposed I could never support it, even if a consultant came back recommending it.

Alderman Guinta asked why not.

Alderman O'Neil answered it is a reduced lease, a five year lease with three five year options. I am not sure that exists in the City and I don't know what door that opens up. I am okay with waiting to hear back from the parking consultants but as this is written I think this is going to open a door in the City that we don't want to go through.

Alderman Guinta replied relative to this portion of the project then you are essentially going to kill the project.

Alderman O'Neil responded I don't think that is true.

Chairman Sysyn stated I don't think it should kill the project.

Alderman Guinta stated one of the requirements is parking. It has been stated in the paper that if the parking is not solidified the project is dead. Mr. O'Sullivan said that in the *Union Leader* article.

Alderman O'Neil responded in a conversation I had with Mr. O'Sullivan today, I believe they are continuing to look at other alternatives.

Alderman Guinta asked what other alternatives.



Alderman O'Neil answered I don't know if it is the Langer...he wasn't specific with me. I don't know if others are having discussions south of Granite Street. The only thing I know is that based on what the consultant has looked at so far they recognize there is an issue south of Granite Street but I don't know what the recommendation is going to be coming back. Again, I have a problem with this five year lease with three options at a reduced rate. I think it is going to open up...we just spent the last four or five years trying to get the rates in the garages up to a reasonable...where it is at least covering the debt service on the garages and the operating expenses.

Alderman Guinta responded this doesn't replace revenue or existing leases. This would enhance revenue. There are empty spaces. They are unutilized spaces that we are talking about and they are off-peak hours. I certainly welcome some changes or modifications to the proposal. My goal is put a proposal together that does two things – insures that we can continue with this portion of the riverfront development because it is critical and have an opportunity to offer an alternative type of leasing program to people who only need spaces on off-peak hours. If there is a particular problem or concern with some of the language I would prefer to work with you on it rather than dismiss the entire idea.

Alderman Smith stated there was a motion to table. Is that going to carry through because I would like to have a vote on my motion to refer it to the parking study committee.

Alderman Guinta asked would you just add...I am happy to send a correspondence to the parking consultants to insure that they are working on it. All I am asking for is if we could in addition to that table it so that we have the ability to take it up in September.

Chairman Sysyn stated if we table it that supercedes anything else.

Alderman Guinta asked would the Committee be open to tabling it until we have the opportunity to continue to discuss this in September.

Alderman Guinta moved to table. Alderman Forest duly seconded the motion.

Chairman Sysyn called for a vote on the motion to table. The motion failed with Aldermen Smith, O'Neil and Sysyn duly recorded in opposition.

Alderman Smith moved to refer the item to the parking study committee. Alderman O'Neil duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Guinta asked does the Committee understand that the parking consultants are already reviewing this issue.

The Committee members responded yes.

Alderman Guinta asked then why are you sending it to them if they are already dealing with it.

Alderman Smith answered because we will get an answer back from them directly and not hearsay from the Economic Development Director. That is why we are having a parking study to get all aspects of the City of Manchester for parking. This is one of the aspects. I hate to single out one businessman and then have a problem with 10 other businessmen.

Alderman Guinta replied that is fine. I am going to bring it back up in September. I think that this...

Alderman O'Neil interjected one of the reasons and I think the Board was unanimous or I may be wrong, in hiring a parking consultant was we have inconsistencies in agreements throughout the City. What I am looking for with this is to get consistency with policy or ordinance that will be recommended moving forward.

Alderman Guinta responded I agree with that but why not table it at the same time so we can take it up in September.

Alderman O'Neil stated if they come back with something we can take it up in September. It is really...the issue of whether it is on the table or not if they come back with a recommendation in September we can take it up.

Alderman Guinta replied well I tell you what. I am going to bring it up again in September regardless. We are at a point where we are not honoring our commitments to that development and that is unfortunate.

Alderman Forest stated all of the development that has gone on in this City since I have been an Aldermen – Manchester Place, the Fisher Cats, the Roedells, they have all gone through the political process. I don't know Mr. O'Sullivan. I don't know what kind of a man he is or what kind of business he has. Apparently, through some efforts that he made through the *Union Leader* to sort of pressure us to make a decision for him...well the first story I read in the *Union Leader* was Mr. O'Sullivan's comment about the City not doing anything for him. That is the first I heard about the project.

Alderman Guinta responded let's air it out then.

Alderman Forest stated one I believe that the parking study should get this and I am going to vote in favor of referring it to them and have them come back with an answer for us and then we can make a good decision.

Alderman Guinta stated I would like to respond. Mr. O'Sullivan said that the City wasn't helping him. Do you want to know what happened? He went to the Mayor and the Mayor said we can't do anything. So he tried to negotiate with the Langers for months. That fell through. The *Union Leader* found about it and did a story and now I am trying to put a proposal together to help him. Now the Mayor seems to be interested in helping him but other members of this Committee don't seem to want to move forward with trying to help this situation. Again, it is not just helping one business owner, it is trying to create and establish alternative parking for off-peak hours. We already know that it is done in other cities. We already know that the parking consultants are reviewing it and will have a response. I am happy to wait for their involvement but even Alderman O'Neil is trying to get information from Paul Borek and he is being stonewalled.

Chairman Sysyn stated some of that information could come from Tom Lolicata.

Chairman Sysyn called for a vote on the motion to refer the item to the parking study committee. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 5 of the agenda:

Communication from Deputy Chief David Albin requesting the closure of the federal building parking lot located at Chestnut and Merrimack Streets from 9 AM until 3 PM on Sunday, October 9, 2005 in conjunction with the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fire Prevention Parade and Muster.

On motion of Alderman Guinta, duly seconded by Alderman Forest it was voted to approve the request.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 6 of the agenda:

Communication from Suzanne Butler, Intown Manchester, requesting the curtailment of parking enforcement during the "Taste of Downtown Manchester" event scheduled to be held on Wednesday, September 14, 2005 from 5 to 8 PM.

Alderman O'Neil moved to approve the request. Alderman Forest duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Smith stated I was reading this and she asked if we could be flexible. I was thinking maybe...I don't know what the Committee would like to do but it says from 5 PM until 8 PM. Could we start it at 4:30 PM so that the people who are going can get a parking space early enough and they can go to the individual restaurants at 5 PM?

Chairman Sysyn replied she asked for 5 PM. They did it last year I believe.

Alderman Smith responded yes and it was successful. It is just a suggestion. She asked us to be flexible.

Alderman O'Neil asked Lt. Valenti if it makes any sense to move it up to 4:30 PM from an enforcement standpoint.

Lt. Valenti answered I think it makes sense if people happen to come downtown a little bit early to attend the event.

Alderman O'Neil moved to amend the motion to being at 4:30 PM. Alderman Smith duly seconded the amendment. Chairman Sysyn called for a vote on motion as amended. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 7 of the agenda:

Communication from Jane Beaulieu, Mill City Festival Director, requesting the placement of signs at the entrance to the City on I-293 south at the Amoskeag and Queen City Avenue exits, I-293 north at the Queen City Avenue and Granite Street exits, and on I-93 north and south exits at Hanover Street announcing the festival on September 10 & 11, 2005.

Alderman Forest asked if we allow these signs who is paying to have them put up and taken down.

Chairman Sysyn asked is anybody here from the Mill City Festival. I imagine that they would be paying for the signs and putting them up. That is part of their...

Alderman Smith interjected it does say that in their letter.

Chairman Sysyn asked if they are paying do we have a motion to go ahead with this.

Alderman Smith stated I am looking at it right now. It is my understanding and it is too bad that somebody from the Festival isn't here but it looks like there are six

signs that they are going to put up and it says they will provide professional signage. I don't know if they are going to put them up or not.

Alderman Guinta stated the first line says they are requesting permission to erect festival signs.

Alderman Smith responded that is why I am assuming they are going to erect their own and pay for the signs.

Alderman O'Neil moved to approve the request with the stipulation that the Mill City Festival pay to put them up and take them down. Alderman Smith duly seconded the motion.

Mr. Lolicata stated I don't know if you can back me on this one, Tom, but I think they are right near the state ramps and they have jurisdiction. First of all, it should be sent to the state and secondly the state just sent a letter to us involving Elm Street where we can't put any banners across. This might be part of it depending on where they are going to put them up near these ramps. The state has jurisdiction there. I would play it safe and probably say no right now. The signage can go up somewhere but if there are going to be banners and signs I think we should get a little more information.

Alderman Forest stated I could amend the motion to have them get permission from the state first.

Alderman O'Neil stated it says that the placement of the signs will be on City owned property. I think she was using the ramps as a general description of where. I didn't interpret that it meant on the ramps.

Mr. Lolicata responded that is correct but if it is on like Route 3 or Route 3A they have...

Alderman O'Neil interjected it says placement of signs will be on City owned property.

Mr. Lolicata stated well it is just a suggestion.

Chairman Sysyn stated you might want to amend it.

Solicitor Thomas Clark stated you may want to have it under the supervision of either the Public Works Director or the Traffic Director.

On motion of Alderman Forest, duly seconded by Alderman Guinta it was voted to amend the motion to have this under the direct supervision of the Highway Director. Chairman Sysyn called for a vote on the amendment. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman O'Neil moved the motion as amended. Alderman Forest duly seconded the motion. Chairman Sysyn called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Sysyn addressed Item 8 of the agenda:

Communication from Maria Biglow, Xilox LLC, requesting a parking permit for the Middle Street Parking Lot.

Alderman Forest stated Tom the last time you were here you said you had six spots but I think we issued three permits. Are there any more spots in that Middle Street parking lot?

Mr. Lolicata responded you have already issued permits to two other people for those six spots. This would be the third request for a seventh spot. I recommend that this does not go more than half of that parking lot. That is just a recommendation.

Alderman Forest asked but is there a spot left.

Mr. Lolicata answered if you people want to pass this, I will give them a spot. I recommend not to go more than 33 spaces.

Alderman Forest moved to refer her to Tom Lolicata.

Alderman Smith asked is the owner here.

Chairman Sysyn responded I think she is here.

Alderman Smith asked how many spaces would she like.

Chairman Sysyn answered she just wants one.

Alderman O'Neil stated we have been consistent with this and we have been granting them.

Alderman Smith moved to approve the request. Alderman Guinta duly seconded the motion. Chairman Sysyn called for a vote on the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Sysyn advised that the Traffic Department has submitted an agenda, which needs to be addressed as follows:

**NO PARKING:**

On Beacon Street, east side, from Manchester Street to a point 45 feet north  
Alderman Sysyn

Chairman Sysyn stated I need to pull the one off on Beacon Street. This request did not come to me. It came to Tom Lolicata. We already voted not to do this and now she wants a parking space in front of her house. She went directly to you.

Mr. Lolicata responded no she went directly to the Mayor's Office twice. They sent me the e-mail and I was asked to go up there and find out what is going on and see if I can do something to help. I did. I went up there one more time. Instead of going on the other side of the driveway I am coming to the far side 35'. The reason being once again and they both were there this time and they asked me first of all because if it is at the dead end of Manchester Street and would help, especially in the winter time for turning up there, turning radius' because if anybody is parked there it is harder and secondly because it was very blind coming out of the driveway on one side. That is why I went through with it. You people can vote on it but that is what I did.

Chairman Sysyn replied but that happens to most of us at our own houses.

Alderman O'Neil asked Tom, number one how can you put down that Alderman Sysyn requested it when she didn't request it.

Mr. Lolicata answered I didn't put that down. I went there because it was a request of the Mayor's Office.

Alderman O'Neil stated it says on our agenda requested by Alderman Sysyn. I thought we talked about...hold on a second. We talked about this awhile ago that the departments should be using the ward Alderman as the avenue to bring in requests. You shouldn't be coming in with a request from somebody in the neighborhood without going through a ward Alderman. I thought we had this discussion about six or eight months ago and we adopted a policy about this. Secondly if the Mayor's Office has a request then they should be listed as the person requesting it, not Alderman Sysyn. We have been through this before where Aldermen...the department has come in with recommendations not from

the ward Alderman but yet their names are there. I am not a ward Alderman so I don't bring in parking requests but I will tell you as a former ward Alderman I feel very strongly about that.

Mr. Lolicata responded first of all I get all kinds of requests from the Mayor, from you, from constituents and everybody. Secondly, I call the Alderman of that ward, which I did, and explain to them in full what has taken place and that is what happened here. I didn't say it was requested...

Alderman O'Neil interjected did she tell you to put the request through.

Mr. Lolicata replied no I explained to her the situation and that is why it went on the agenda

Chairman Sysyn stated but the Mayor should be have been listed on the agenda.

Mr. Lolicata replied I always tell the Alderman of each ward.

Alderman O'Neil stated it should be listed as the Mayor's request, not Alderman Sysyn's. The other exception I have is we have voted this down already. We rescinded it once. Why do we keep bringing back issues that we have rescinded?

Mr. Lolicata responded all you have to do is rescind it again.

Alderman O'Neil replied rescind it again, there is no action. There should be no signs up there.

Mr. Lolicata stated there are no signs. It has already been rescinded. All you have to do is refuse it.

Alderman O'Neil moved to receive and file. Alderman Forest duly seconded the motion.

Alderman O'Neil stated we have to get this under control about who is requesting signs. I thought we talked about this once and I feel very strongly that it only should come through the ward Alderman. Alderman Lopez and I both try to respect that and I believe the Mayor's Office has as well. I spoke to the Mayor's Office about this but when I see here Alderman Sysyn I get concerned when I ask her if she brought it in.

Mr. Lolicata responded she did not. The Mayor's Office asked me to go up there through an e-mail.



Alderman O'Neil asked did you tell the Mayor's Office that the Committee voted to rescind this once already.

Mr. Lolicata answered yes they are aware of that. I explained to them what happened.

Alderman O'Neil stated that is not the conversation I had with the Mayor's Office. They weren't aware that the Committee had already voted to rescind a previous action on signs.

Mr. Lolicata replied I explained that to Seth Wall.

Alderman O'Neil stated maybe I am getting a little worked up about this and I am not a ward Alderman but there needs to be respect for the Alderman from the ward. The department should not be doing their own thing on signs.

Mr. Lolicata replied I don't do that Alderman but I do take a look at each situation and make a recommendation. All you have to do is say no.

Alderman O'Neil responded sometimes that recommendation shouldn't even make it on the agenda if the ward Alderman was spoken to ahead of time.

Mr. Lolicata asked in other words every single time...I need some answers on this. What do you want me to do?

Alderman O'Neil stated what I thought and we will have to get the Clerk's Office to research this but I thought we passed a policy about how signs were to be handled going forward. I can't remember...it was six or eight months ago maybe. We had a discussion that it should go through the ward Alderman.

Mr. Lolicata replied they do. Every single one goes through the ward Alderman. They are aware of each situation.

Alderman O'Neil responded you just told me that this one didn't go through Alderman Sysyn.

Mr. Lolicata replied it went through. I explained the whole thing to her.

Chairman Sysyn stated this woman did not call me, which she should have done. She went to the Mayor's Office and never called me on this. I have a motion on the floor and I am going to call for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Deputy Clerk Normand stated before you proceed, Madame Chair, there are two new items for the traffic agenda. They are stop signs. One is on Jobin Drive at S. Taylor Street (new, swc) and then on S. Taylor Street at Jobin Drive (nwc).

Chairman Sysyn asked is it a four-way or two-way.

Deputy Clerk Normand answered I am not sure. This was handed to me by Mr. Lolicata.

Mr. Lolicata stated it is a three-way and it was asked for at the last minute by the Highway Department. This is a result of the engineering study for the Jobin Drive area.

Chairman Sysyn asked so there was a study done and the Alderman is aware that this is going on.

Alderman O'Neil asked so the Alderman in this situation is aware.

Mr. Lolicata answered she was at all of the meetings. This was done through VHB Engineering. This came out of the study.

Chairman Sysyn stated they had a public hearing on how they were going to calm traffic over on Jobin Drive.

**STOP SIGNS:**

On Janet Court at Mooresville Road (NWC)  
Alderman Porter

**NO PARKING:**

On Beech Street, east side, from Webster Street to a point 205 feet north  
Alderman Roy

On Lincoln Street, west side, from Valley Street to a point 400 feet north  
On Lincoln Street, east side, from Valley Street to Auburn Street  
Alderman Osborne

On Villa Street, south side, from a point 25 feet east of Belmont Street to a point  
35 feet east  
Alderman Shea

**RESCIND STOP SIGNS:**

On Lincoln Street at Valley Street (NWC, SEC)  
Alderman Osborne

**RESCIND NO PARKING:**

On Lincoln Street, west side, from a point 300 feet north of Valley Street to a point 105 feet north (ORD. #8071)

On Lincoln Street, east side, from Summer Street to Valley Street (ORD.#3234)  
Alderman Osborne

Alderman O'Neil moved on the traffic agenda with the exception of the two new items. Alderman Guinta duly seconded the motion. Chairman Sysyn called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman O'Neil asked regarding the two new items what is the rush and why didn't they make the agenda.

Mr. Lolicata answered this was asked for at the last minute by the Highway Department. They want to get this going. This is only one part of the study recommendations. There will be more. They are going to be changing the street down there to being with and these things here they have already gone along with and would like to have implemented. It has to do with the calming of Jobin Drive.

Chairman Sysyn stated they are trying to calm the traffic. People use that as a shortcut.

Alderman O'Neil asked but there is no communication on this or anything.

Chairman Sysyn stated they had a public hearing with the neighborhood.

Alderman O'Neil responded I understand that. I saw it on TV. Usually they fax stuff down to the Clerk's Office or something.

Mr. Lolicata asked would you like to have that in writing from the Highway Department. We can wait. Whatever you want.

Chairman Sysyn asked do you want to hold it until the next meeting.

Alderman O'Neil answered that is fine with me. In my opinion we have to get some consistency with all of this.

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Guinta it was voted to table the two new items under the traffic agenda.

**TABLED ITEMS**

10. Communication from Alderman O'Neil relative to installation of traffic signs in residential neighborhoods.

This item remained on the table.

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Smith it was voted to take Items 11 and 12 off the table.

11. Discussion relative to Enhanced State 911 System.

Alderman O'Neil stated I know we indicated at the last meeting that Chief Kane...we had said that September would be fine to get back to us but since the last time we met I received a call regarding concerns with delays and ambulance in the City by using this enhanced 911. I think the Chief really needs to get to the bottom of this and come in with some strong recommendations. The fact that we are getting any calls on this to me I am concerned that something isn't going right in this process. I may try to get the woman to write a letter and go on record about it. I did receive a call and I don't know if other Aldermen did about this issue. It continues to be an issue in the City. I know the Chief was prepared to come back in September with some information.

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Smith it was voted to place this item back on the table.

12. Request of the Friends of the Valley Cemetery to parking a storage container in the alley between the east and west wings of City Hall complex from August 23, 2005 until September 15, 2005.

Chairman Sysyn stated this item is being taken off because Friends of the Valley Cemetery found a place to park their benches. Mr. Gamache bought the Parish House across the way and they are going to park their items there.

On motion of Alderman Forest, duly seconded by Alderman Smith it was voted to receive and file.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Deputy Clerk Normand stated we have one item of new business that I handed out this evening. It is an extension for the parking garage agreement with National Garages for the Victory Street garage.

Chairman Sysyn asked how long is this extension for.

Deputy Clerk Normand answered it says from February 15, 2005 to December 31, 2005.

Alderman O'Neil moved to approve the contract extension. Alderman Smith duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Guinta asked why are we getting this today if this starts in February. Who gave this to us?

Deputy Clerk Normand responded I was handed this item before the meeting.

Alderman Guinta asked who gave it to you.

Deputy Clerk Normand answered Tom Lolicata.

Alderman Guinta asked has the Solicitor...I mean why are we getting it today Tom. Why didn't we do this back in February? Is it accurate that it starts...

Mr. Lolicata interjected it is accurate. National Garages...we did this. I talked to Mr. Arnold to get this going to at least cover us until the end of the year. We had put them off for a few months because we were waiting for the parking study but we wanted to have something in place until the end of the year.

Alderman Guinta asked so it is effective when.

Mr. Lolicata answered the effective date is from February, which was the last one we had with them until the 31<sup>st</sup> of December.

Alderman Guinta stated this doesn't have an effective date on it.

Mr. Lolicata responded well we can change that. It just shows that it is good until December 31.

Alderman Guinta asked is that the same fee we have been paying them.

Mr. Lolicata answered right along yes.

Alderman Guinta asked that is all we pay them.

Mr. Lolicata answered that's it. There has been an extension going on for the last year and a half Alderman.

Alderman Guinta asked that is all we pay them for parking management.

Alderman O'Neil stated staff salaries aren't included in that.

Chairman Sysyn called for a vote on the motion to approve the contract extension with National Garages for the Victory Street garage. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman Forest stated I have been talking with Tom Clark's office off and on and apparently this was supposed to have been sent to the Traffic study but was not. I have a problem in my ward and I am sure other Aldermen have the same problem. We have a City ordinance that says you shall not park a vehicle on the street that is for sale. We have all kinds of vehicles all over the City that have "for sale" signs and phone numbers and some of them are not registered. There is really not much teeth to the ordinance we have and what I would recommend is that this Committee refers it back to Tom Clark's office along with the Police Department to try to make it a violation. I am not sure what it is now. There is no fine or anything to it. I would like to refer it back to the Police Department.

Alderman Forest moved to refer the issue to the Solicitor's Office and the Police Department to come up with a recommendation to make it a violation. Alderman O'Neil duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Smith asked Lt. Valenti to come forward and give his comments.

Lt. Valenti stated currently it is a violation of the City ordinance 70.39 I believe to display a vehicle for sale on a City street. If you violate the ordinance you certainly can be issued a violation to appear in court or be fined \$50.

Alderman Forest stated what I am looking for is like if a parking control officer comes over they can hang a ticket on it which they can't do now.

Chairman Sysyn stated well they can.

Lt. Valenti stated the parking control officer doesn't have the authority to issue a summons. All they can do is issue parking citations.

Alderman Forest asked a police officer can.

Lt. Valenti responded right.

Alderman Forest stated this is what I want them to work out.

Chairman Sysyn asked so it is just not enforced.

Alderman Forest stated it is not enforced mainly because the parking control officers are the ones being sent to the complaint and they don't have the authority to issue the summons. A police officer does and that is what I want to work out with the City Solicitor and the Police Department to give the parking control officer the authority to do it. They can't do it now. Only a police officer can do it.

Alderman O'Neil stated the Solicitor should take a look at that as well but I think if it is going on Lt. Valenti can ask the police officers to pay attention to it.

Chairman Sysyn called for a vote on the motion to refer the issue to the Solicitor's Office and the Police Department for a recommendation back to the Committee. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

There being no further business, on motion of Alderman Smith, duly seconded by Alderman Forest it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee